Background

Communications on the fireground are critical to safe, effective operations. First arriving units must effectively size up the incident and provide information to other responding units. An additional report is made after the first unit completes the "360 size-up". This provide enough information to upgrade or downgrade the incident as needed

By practicing the "Order Model" below, members can provide clear, concise details in a short amount of time. The process should be practiced by all members, especially those assigned portable radios.

Order Model

1. Call "Arrival", and provide arrival information
2. Conduct the 360 Size-Up
3. Provide follow up report
4. Upgrade / Downgrade the incident, as needed
5. When necessary
    a. Identify the Staging Area
    b. Identify the Operational Mode
    c. Assign a Tactical Channel
    d. Establish Command

Examples

First Unit: Arrives and provides the following report:

"Dispatch, _____ arrival, Checking."

Follow up Report: First unit completes their 360 Size-Up and updates responding units:

"Dispatch from ___. Fire out on arrival. Engine ___ can handle. Code 1." Or,

"Dispatch from ___. We have an odor of smoke in the structure. We're checking further. Code 2." Or,

"Dispatch from _____. The fire is out. Code 2 for Station ___. Other units can pick up."

First Unit: Arrives and provides the following report:

"Dispatch, _____ arrival, Smoke Showing." (Performs 360 Size-Up)

Follow up Report: First unit completes the 360 Size-Up and provides an update:

"Dispatch from ___, we have a 2-story residence with a working fire on the 2nd floor, smoke/flame showing on the Charlie side. We are preparing an offensive attack. _____ is establishing ____ Command." Or,

"Dispatch from ___, we have a working fire on the 1st floor, Bravo side of a 2-story apartment building, with extension to the 2nd floor. We are preparing a transitional attack. _____ is establishing ____ Command."

Assign a Tactical Channel:

A conventional tactical channel (R-TAC) shall be assigned for interior and IDLH operations. The assigned tactical channel should match the first due station number. The first arriving Engine shall set their mobile radio to the corresponding Opensky Talkgroup of the first due station (Station 1 shall use TRF_FD7). Then, the pyramid repeater shall be set to the assigned Tac Channel.

"All units on Coolidge from Coolidge Command, switch to Tac-6 upon arrival and acknowledge."

At this incident, the first arriving Engine sets their mobile radio to TRF_FD6, and their pyramid repeater to Tac-6 (**Note**: The Opensky radio must switch first to prevent tactical communications from being rebroadcast on TRF_FD1).

Station 1 Only: When instructed by the Incident Commander, set your mobile radio to TRF_FD7, and your pyramid repeater to Tac-1.

If fire units are working an incident outside (e.g.: Extrication, Odor Investigation, Wires Down, Water Rescue, etc.), they should be assigned an Opensky Talkgroup instead of an R-Tac Channel.

STATION	OPENSKY TALKGROUP	TACTICAL CHANNEL	STATION	OPENSKY TALKGROUP	TACTICAL CHANNEL
1	TRF_FD7	RTAC-1	4	TRF_FD4	RTAC-4
2	TRF_FD2	RTAC-2	5	TRF_FD5	RTAC-5
3	TRF_FD3	RTAC-3	6	TRF_FD6	RTAC-6